

CLAIMS:

1. A method for facilitating the pushing of input data across one or more communications links from an input peripheral to one or more multiple hosts, the method comprising:

5 displaying a user interface (UI) from which one or more destinations of inputted data may be selected, wherein a destination comprise one or more multiple hosts;

obtaining an indication of a selected destination;

notifying a host of the selected destination;

10 receiving communications from the host;

inputting data at the input peripheral;

transmitting the inputted data to the selected destination host.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the input peripheral is
15 selected from a group consisting of a scanner and a multifunction peripheral (MFP).

3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more multiple hosts are computers.

20 4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the inputted data is image data resulting from scanning one or more documents.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the communications link is selected from groups consisting of a network and multiple direct-connections.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprising one or more multiple hosts and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprising one or more multiple hosts and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target, the method further comprising providing a selection mechanism via the UI where a user may select both a primary and a secondary target.

8. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprising one or more multiple hosts and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target, the method further comprising providing a selection mechanism via the UI where a user may select a primary target via a first menu and then a secondary target associated with the selected primary target.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprising one or more multiple hosts and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target, wherein such resources are selected from a group consisting of:

- an application program for receiving the inputted data;
- a telephone number for facsimile transmission of the inputted data
- an email address to send the inputted data to;
- storage location to store the inputted data.

10. A method for facilitating "kick-pull" scanning across one or more communications links from an input peripheral to one or more multiple hosts, the method comprising:

displaying a user interface (UI) from which one or more destinations of inputted data may be selected, wherein a destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprising one or more multiple hosts and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target;

obtaining an indication of a selected destination;

inputting data at the input peripheral;

transmitting the inputted data to the selected destination.

11. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

notifying a host of the selected destination;

receiving communications from the host.

12. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the input peripheral is selected from a group consisting of a scanner and a multifunction peripheral (MFP).

5 13. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the one or more multiple hosts are computers.

10 14. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the inputted data is image data resulting from scanning one or more documents.

15 15. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the communications link is selected from groups consisting of a network and multiple direct-connections.

16. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising providing a selection mechanism via the UI where a user may select both a primary and a secondary target.

20 17. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising providing a selection mechanism via the UI where a user may select a primary target via a first menu and then a secondary target associated with the selected primary target.

18. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the resources are selected from a group consisting of:

- an application program for receiving the inputted data;
- a telephone number for facsimile transmission of the inputted data
- an email address to send the inputted data to;
- storage location to store the inputted data.

19. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method for facilitating “kick-pull” scanning across one or more communications links from an input peripheral to one or more multiple hosts, the method comprising:

receiving a notification of a selected destination from the input peripheral, wherein the selected destination comprises a primary target and a secondary target, the primary target comprises one or more multiple hosts and receives this notification and the secondary target comprising resources associated with the primary target;

communicating with the input peripheral;

receiving inputted data from the input peripheral;

directing the inputted data to the secondary target.

20. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the input peripheral is selected from a group consisting of a scanner and a multifunction peripheral (MFP).

